

Roger Durbin died in February 2000 without ever seeing the memorial he inspired. "In a sense," said his granddaughter, Melissa Growden, an art historian who has served on the WWII Memorial Advisory Board since 1994, "the torch has been passed to me." Just after the war, she said her grandfather "had the mindset of a lot of that generation. They went over there. They had a job to do. Then they went home and picked up life where they'd left it."

It was only years later, Growden said, that Durbin began to talk in detail about his time with the 10th Armored Division, the force led by the legendary Gen. George Patton that stormed across northern Europe and into Germany.

"He did a lot of public speaking then," Growden said. "And when he spoke he always cried." Over the years, she saw evidence of his wartime service. "I remember once seeing his scrapbooks and its photos of a concentration camp—people stacked eight deep."

"My brother and I were raised with this incredible sense of patriotism and gratitude. Our grandfather said to us, 'We fought so that you can enjoy the freedom and liberties that we have today. I never want you and your generation and the generations that follow to ever fight a war like the one we fought in.'"

"He usually closed his talks by saying, 'The World War II generation is an endangered species. Soon we'll be extinct.' With this memorial they won't be."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN KLOMP

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to John Klomp and thank him for his dedication to Colorado as a two-term Pueblo County Commissioner. His dedication and tireless efforts have done much to ensure a promising future for his constituents. As John celebrates his retirement, let it be known that he leaves behind a terrific legacy of commitment to the people of Pueblo County and the State of Colorado.

Before being elected county commissioner, John worked for thirty-four years in education, retiring in 1994 as Associate Superintendent of Pueblo School District 70. During his tenure as commissioner, John has worked hard on a vast array of issues, including welfare reform, county growth, educational and recreational programs for the county's youth, and law enforcement programs. A dedicated member of the community, John is also involved in several local organizations. He currently serves as the Chair for the Citizens' Advisory Commission for the Pueblo Chemical Dept for the Pueblo Area Council of Governments and for the Front-Range County Commissioners. He is also a board member of the Pueblo Chamber of Commerce, Pueblo Latino Chamber of Commerce, and Junior Achievement. In addition to his community involvement and work as commissioner, John is the Outdoor Editor for the Pueblo Chieftain Newspaper for which he writes a bi-monthly article.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that County Commissioner John Klomp has ceaselessly dedicated his time and efforts to serving his county and the people of Colorado as a County Commissioner for Pueblo County. I am honored to

bring his hard work and commitment to the attention of this body of Congress and this nation today. Thank you for all your service John and I wish you and your wife Pat all the best in your future endeavors.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES F. BASS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Private 1st Class Andrew D. Stevens of Stratham, New Hampshire. He bravely served the Army's 10th Mountain Division supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom and earned his Expert Infantry Badge. Pfc. Stevens made the ultimate sacrifice in service to his country when the Blackhawk helicopter he was riding in tragically crashed during a training accident at the Fort Drum, New York on March 11, 2003.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Private 1st Class Andrew D. Stevens and our other servicemen and women who have courageously given their own lives in order to protect and defend the democracy we enjoy in America and to extend the freedoms that come with democracy to those who live in fear and oppression worldwide.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Marine Sgt. Brian McGinnis of the Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169, who made the ultimate sacrifice for his country on March 30, 2004 in southern Iraq. In the words of his fellow Marines, Sgt. McGinnis was a trusted mentor, a brother, and a hero.

Sgt. McGinnis, a graduate of William Penn High School and native of St. Georges, Delaware joined the Marine Corps because as he stated, he, "wanted to be a part of the best." As a member of the United States Armed Services, Sgt. McGinnis had fulfilled his goal of becoming a part of the best fighting force in the world. Sgt. McGinnis had the opportunity to take part in activities he loved in the Marine Corps and had received his crew wings the day before he met with tragedy in southern Iraq. The most important aspect of Sgt. McGinnis' service in Iraq was the sense of pride he felt knowing that he was serving his country.

Mr. Speaker, it is not possible to quantify the sense of loss our great nation feels when faced with the loss of life of our men and women in the United States Armed Services. Nonetheless, I will say that Sgt. Brian McGinnis will be deeply missed by his family, his friends, the Marine Corps, and by his nation. His service for our nation and the service of countless men and women before and after him will never be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING OSF SAINT FRANCIS ON 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIFE FLIGHT

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, based in Peoria, Illinois, for the 20th Anniversary of their Life Flight program. The OSF Life Flight program is the largest of its kind in Illinois. Due to the central location of Peoria, the Life Flight helicopter travels great distances to ensure my constituents, and others in surrounding areas, access to lifesaving medical technology at their innovative medical center.

In 1984, OSF Saint Francis initiated the Life Flight air transport service to serve 18 Central Illinois counties and 26 area hospitals. Since its inception, 20,000 critically-ill patients have been successfully transported by Life Flight, making it the busiest such service in Illinois. The flawless safety record and level of medical care maintained by Life Flight is a testament to the professionalism of the pilots, mechanics, nurses, communication specialists, and physicians involved in every voyage. With the addition of a second helicopter in 2002, OSF St. Francis now has the unique honor of being the only hospital-based, two helicopter program in Illinois.

It is with great pride that I recognize OSF Saint Francis on the 20th Anniversary of their Life Flight program and thank them for the past two decades of outstanding service to Central Illinois.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, on the legislative day of Tuesday, June 1, 2004, the House had votes on H. Con. Res. 295, H. Res. 612, and H. Con. Res. 417. On these House rollcall votes—#210, #211 and #212—I was unavoidably detained at the airport while in transit. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on each.

INTRODUCING THE LONG-TERM CARE (LTC) ACT

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the House's attention to the Long-term Care (LTC) Act. This act, which was introduced today by myself and nine bi-partisan cosponsors, would allow individuals to use their IRAs, 401(k), and 403(b) plans to purchase long-term care insurance with pretax dollars at any age and without early withdrawal penalty. Under the LTC Act, the consumer has the option to purchase LTC insurance at the most appropriate amounts for their needs for themselves and their spouses.

Preparing for future costs of health care is something that every American should be doing. Long-term care insurance is one way for Americans to plan for periods of extended disability without burdening their families, going bankrupt, or relying on government assistance.

Nineteen percent of seniors over 65 years old and 55 percent of those 85 years and older require long-term care—the personal assistance that enables impaired people to perform daily routines such as eating, bathing, and dressing. This care is expensive:

For nursing home care, the nationwide average cost of care is \$181.24 a day; for assisted living, the nationwide average cost of care is \$78.21 a day; and for home care, the nationwide average cost of care is \$18.12 a day.

Further, Medicare covers only 14 percent of long-term care expenditures while traditional health insurance programs typically do not cover daily living assistance costs for long periods of time. Poverty is required to qualify for Medicaid. This Catch 22 causes many Americans who become chronically ill to spend their entire life savings at a time when they need it most.

Last year, Congress passed and President Bush signed into law legislation creating Health Savings Accounts (HSAs) which allows the public to set up reserves to use for medical purposes, like the purchase of LTC insurance. This was a great step toward consumer-directed health care; however, as Baby Boomers retire, the number of individuals age 65 and older will double and most will not have the advantage of building an HSA to provide for the purchase of LTC.

The LTC Act is a low-cost, common sense approach to providing long-term care to more Americans. It is not a solution for all retirees. But it is one more tool to provide all Americans with adequate health insurance coverage, the freedom to use their own resources how they determine, and to reduce costs to the government under Medicaid.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I yield back the balance of my time.

HONORING KAREN SCHOENFELD AND LACROSSE ROADS SCHOOL

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, rise today to recognize Karen Schoenfeld and all of the faculty and students at La Crosse Roads School, which is a high school in my district in western Wisconsin. The students and faculty at the school are performing a great service to our country and deserve our praise and recognition.

Four years ago, after listening to my father and uncle talk about their experiences serving our country overseas, I realized that our Nation needed to record the valuable stories of our veterans and those Americans who supported them. And it was this simple experience that led me to author the Veterans Oral History Project Act. After passing the House and Senate unanimously and being signed into law by President Clinton, the project was turned over to the able staff at the Library of Congress's Folklife Center. This small but

dedicated staff relies heavily on volunteers to collect the stories of veterans, and La Crosse Roads School has risen admirably to this challenge.

Partnering with the local Rotary Club, of which Karen is a member, the students and faculty at La Crosse Roads have taken on the task of contacting and interviewing veterans and submitting their interviews for inclusion in the Veterans History Project. The interaction between these high school students and our Nation's veterans has been an amazing one to watch. The teenagers tell me that they have never before been interested in history; by hearing our veterans' stories first-hand, they are not only interested, but they also feel that they are a part of preserving an important part of American history. They are making a significant contribution to our country and get enormous satisfaction from doing so. The veterans, some of whom have never talked about their experiences before, feel gratified that their stories are important to others. The excellent work done by Karen and the students has been aided by the National Court Reporters, led by my wife Tawni, who are transcribing the interviews. In all, the work that Karen and the students have done has been incredibly successful. They are an excellent example of the kind of partnerships that make the Veterans History Program a national success.

Karen is truly a remarkable person who brings her enthusiasm and energy to the classroom working with these "at-risk" students. There is no half-effort or lower gear for Karen, and that is reflected in the success her students achieve. She not only has had her students involved with the Veterans History Project for the past three years; she has also worked with the local CESA office to develop a website and lesson plan for other teachers and students to use for the project. And every year Karen teams with a WWII veteran, Bill Bruring, to have an awards ceremony in La Crosse to recognize the students and particularly the veterans. It is a very moving and patriotic ceremony that I have had the pleasure of attending.

Many of us were lucky enough to be on the Mall this past weekend and visit with some of the veterans who were here for the dedication of the National World War II Memorial. It was truly inspiring to talk to these great men and women, who had sacrificed so much and have a great deal to teach us. I believe that Karen and her students have learned many important lessons from our veterans, and I would like to end by reading a poem Karen wrote that beautifully expresses the experience she and her students have had with the veterans:

I NEVER SAW YOUR FACE BEFORE

I never saw your face before.
I never knew your name.
But now our paths have crossed
And I will never be the same.
I never saw the flag before.
Not really, not its soul.
I only saw the stars, the stripes,
a fabric on a pole.

Now as I gaze upon the flag
I can see young faces.
All called away from our proud land
to other distant places.

They did what they were called to do.
They put their dreams on hold.
They knew that others needed them.
They did what they were told.

And you, my friend, have taught me this—

the sacrifices made.

You helped me know what I have earned
From the price that others paid.

I've been in class, I've read the books.
I've seen the movies too.

But now I know our freedom's price—
All this I've learned from you.

Karen Schoenfeld

HONORING LOWELL BRYANT STANBERRY

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished constituent of mine, Mr. Lowell Bryant Stanberry of Dade City in Pasco County, Florida.

Mr. Stanberry is a loving husband of fifty-one years, father of one, and grandfather of three. After serving his country in the U.S. Army in the Korean conflict, Lowell moved to Dade City in my district in 1964.

A former board member of First National Bank of Pasco, Lowell is a 32nd degree Mason and a member of the Shrine. He is an active supporter of the Highway Patrol and Sheriff's auxiliaries.

Affectionately known as the "grandfather of Pasco County's Republican Party," Lowell and his beloved wife, Evelyn, are known far and wide for their passion and dedication. In addition, he is a charter member of the East Pasco Republican Club and was the first recipient of their Lincoln Heritage Award in 2004.

I am grateful to have a civic leader as dedicated to his convictions and community as Lowell Stanberry. His lifelong commitment to his ideology and neighbors has improved the lives of countless Floridians. I am proud to call him my constituent and honor him on the floor of this House.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DON DAVIS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 3, 2004

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Don Davis and thank him for his exceptional contributions to his community and the State of Colorado as a Rio Blanco County Commissioner. He will always be remembered as a dedicated public servant and leader of his community. As Don celebrates his retirement, let it be known that he leaves behind a terrific legacy of commitment to the people of Rio Blanco and the State of Colorado.

For the last twenty-two years Don has dedicated his efforts to public service. He served on the School Board for seven years, and was President of Colorado Counties Incorporated in 1993. He has been very active in public land issues, serving on various commissions and committees, and was a part of the team that assisted in lobbying for the increase in PILT. He also was able to lead NACO into supporting the energy bill. Above all, Don is dedicated to his lovely wife Paula.